

2003-2004 NASDSE Series

Achieving Better Results Through Policy and Practice

Serving Low-Incidence Children in a High Standards Environment

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

1:00pm – 3:00 pm (ET)

One of the major challenges of educating all children to high standards is to make the services provided to low-incidence children with disabilities individually appropriate, while achieving the results expected for all students. Because low-incidence children usually have greater needs for services and accommodations, this presents greater challenges for them, their families, their teachers and service providers to maintain pace with other children toward adequate yearly progress and, ultimately, graduation. The presenters will explore the research, education issues and make recommendations for serving these children in schools focused on meeting high standards and achieving higher student results.

Presenters: **Dr. Kay Ferrell**
Executive Director, National Center on Low-Incidence Disabilities
University of Northern Colorado

Dr. Gaylen Pugh
National Association of State Directors of Special Education

Moderator: **Dr. Bill East**
Executive Director, NASDSE

The New IDEA: What it Says and What it Means for States and Schools

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

1:00pm – 3:00 pm (ET)

With the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), stakeholders involved in the education and services for children and youth with disabilities must become aware of the changes in the law. But having knowledge of the changes is not enough. It will be important for everyone to understand what the changes mean for states and schools as they implement this new law for the nation's six million children with disabilities. The presenters will address the new language in the IDEA, focus on important issues and provide their views as to what these mean for states and schools.

Presenters: **Dr. Alice Parker**
California State Director of Special Education and NASDSE President

Dr. Luann Purcell
Executive Director, Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)

Nancy Reder, Esq.
Deputy Executive Director, NASDSE

Moderator: **Dr. Bill East**
Executive Director, NASDSE

The Pennsylvania Community of Practice in Support of Transition

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

1:00pm – 3:00 pm (ET)

States and communities have worked for years to meet IDEA requirements in the area of transition and to provide successful transitions for students with disabilities from schools to further education/training, meaningful employment and successful adult community living. The barriers to success go beyond inadequate funding. Many states and communities find it difficult to get all the important stakeholders focused and participating in a shared responsibility for this program. Pennsylvania is a leader in making this a reality. The Departments of Health, Public Welfare, Labor and Education, with their ten Bureaus, have developed a community of practice to support transition for youth with disabilities. This conference will feature members of the Pennsylvania IDEA Interagency Team who will share their successful experiences in collaboration and joint responsibility for the successful transition of Pennsylvania students with disabilities.

Presenters: *The Pennsylvania IDEA Interagency Team*

Moderator: *Dr. Bill East*
Executive Director, NASDSE

School-Based Mental Health

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

1:00pm – 3:00 pm (ET)

The challenges of the 21st century demand collaboration across groups to assure both achievement and well being for America's children and youth. Public mental health and education agencies, schools and family organizations must work together to meet the positive social, emotional and educational needs of every child. Schools need a broad range of services to build a supportive school environment. This conference will address the shared opportunity education and mental health agencies have in working with parents to make collaboration a reality. Presenters will share research and suggested practices to consider, as well as the successful experiences of a state team, which will relate how they became a community of practice around education and mental health.

Presenters: *Dr. Mark Weist*
Center for School Mental Health Assistance (CSMHA)
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Mike Armstrong
Director, Office for Exceptional Children
Ohio Department of Education

Terre Garner
Executive Director, Ohio Federation for Children's Mental Health

Kay Reitz
Assistant Deputy Director, Office of Children's Services and Prevention
Ohio Department of Mental Health

Moderator: *Dr. Bill East*
Executive Director, NASDSE

2003-2004 Reading Rockets Series

Achieving Success in Reading

Establishing an Effective Reading Program

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

12:00pm – 1:30pm (ET)

Nationwide, 36% of fourth graders read below the "basic" level. But schools are trying very hard to change that statistic. What are the necessary ingredients for effective reading instruction? And how do individual schools and districts meet the needs of their students, while satisfying the requirements of NCLB?

Panelists:

Dr. G. Reid Lyon

Chief, Child Development and Behavior Branch

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Dr. Timothy Shanahan

Director, University of Illinois at Chicago Center for Literacy

Dr. Charlotte Parker

Principal, Burbank Elementary, Houston Independent School District

Making Parents Partners

Wednesday, February 18, 2004

12:00pm – 1:30pm (ET)

Research shows that getting parents involved in your school pays off. When parents play a part in their child's academic career, students have better school attendance, make greater achievement gains, and have fewer behavior problems. What can your school do to make parents partners in the process of teaching their child to read?

Panelists:

Dr. Karen L. Mapp

President, Institute for Responsive Education

Susan Hall

Project Director, Early Intervention Program, Porter County Reading Foundation

Co-Author, Straight Talk About Reading and Parenting a Struggling Reader

Tom Bowmann

Director of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction

Baltimore County Public School System

Teaching English Language Learners to Read

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

12:00pm – 1:30pm (ET)

Reading and speaking English well are skills critical for academic success. Last year, the U.S. Department of Education convened a panel of scholars to identify the best research-based practices for teaching English language learners to speak, read, and write English fluently. The panel hopes to release its report in 2004. For this teleconference, we'll bring you three members of the panel to share their findings.

Panelists:

Dr. Diane August

Senior Research Scientist, Center for Applied Linguistics

Dr. Margarita Calderón

Research Scientist, Johns Hopkins University

Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk (CRESPAR)

Dr. Fred Genesee

Professor, Psychology Department, McGill University, Montreal, Canada